



**PROCLAMATION  
MALE SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH  
APRIL/2016**

- WHEREAS: whether by simple neglect or conspiracy, the problem of child sexual abuse persists in an atmosphere of silence and ignorance; and
- WHEREAS: any community, organization or individual who attempts to remain neutral or fails to support the protection of all children from sexual exploitation is at least passively supportive of continued sexual exploitation; and
- WHEREAS: compared with female children who are victimized, the problem of boyhood sexual exploitation is more often overlooked, neglected, and poorly understood; and
- WHEREAS: while efforts to protect girls from sexual victimization and rehabilitative services provided to those who are traumatized are well underway, collectively applying these same efforts on behalf of male children has lagged; and
- WHEREAS: boys who are sexually abused usually lack appropriate adult male role models and mentors to assist them in their recovery, provide support during any prosecution, and advocate on their behalf with other adults and organizations and as a result sustain additional trauma and suffer developmentally; and
- WHEREAS: it is encouraged that all adult survivors, especially male, provide appropriate nurturing support and guidance to sexual abuse victims as they are able; and
- WHEREAS: all adult survivors advocate for the prevention of childhood sexual abuse and for the development of effective and comprehensive recovery and rehabilitative programs for victims within the limits of his or her governmental and cultural restrictions and to the extent he or she is able.

NOW THEREFORE I, Bill McKay, Mayor of the City of Nanaimo, do hereby proclaim that the month of April, 2016, shall be known as:

**'MALE SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH'**

in the City of Nanaimo.

Bill McKay  
MAYOR



DATED THIS THIS 1<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF MARCH/2016.